

What is claimed is:

1. An interconnect apparatus comprising:  
a wearable garment(2) having a body structure; and  
5 at least one interconnect element(12) having at least one electrically conductive contact portion (11a) and an opening(10), said interconnect device(12) coupled to a fabric circuit(4) integrated in said garment(2).
- 10 2. The interconnect apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising a connector (40) having at least one electrically conductive contact portion(40a), said connector being releasably coupled to said interconnect element(12).
- 15 3. The interconnect apparatus of Claim 2, wherein said connector further comprises a cable(16) extending therefrom.
4. The interconnect apparatus of Claim 3, wherein said cable(16) serves as a coupling to an electronic device(14).
- 20 5. The interconnect apparatus of Claim 3, wherein said cable(16) serves as a coupling to a power source (14).

6. The interconnect apparatus of Claim 2, wherein said interconnect device(12) is mounted on the outer surface of said garment(2) for engaging and supporting units ancillary to transmitting electronic signals.

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7. An interconnect apparatus comprising:

a wearable garment(2) having a body structure;

at least one interconnect element(12) having at least one electrically conductive contact portion(12a) coupled to a first  
10 fabric circuit(4) integrated in a first layer of said garment(2); and,

a connecting element(20) having at least one electrically conductive contact portion(20a) coupled to a second fabric circuit(4) integrated in a second layer of said garment(2),

15 wherein said interconnect element(12) engages the connecting element via a releasable locking action so that the respective conductive contact portions(12a,20a) come in contact electrically.

20 8. The interconnect apparatus of Claim 7, wherein said first and second fabric circuits(4) are coupled to a signaling device(14).

9. The interconnect apparatus of Claim 7, wherein said  
25 first and second fabric circuits(4) are coupled to electronic devices integrated in the body structure of said garment.

10. The interconnect apparatus of Claim 6, wherein said connector(20) is a button.

11. A method for permitting a person to activate an  
5 electronic device conveniently, said method comprising the steps of:

attaching at least one fabric circuit(4) in a wearable garment(2);

mounting an interconnect device(12) having at least one  
10 conductive contact portion(12a) to said wearable garment;

dressing said person in said wearable garment(2); and,  
selectively coupling a connector (20, 40) having at  
least one conductive contact portion (20a, 40a) to said  
interconnect device (12) to serve as a coupling to an  
15 electronic device (14) or a power source.

12. A method for permitting a person to activate an electronic device conveniently, said method comprising the steps of:

20 attaching at least one fabric circuit(4) in a first layer and a second layer of a wearable garment(2);

mounting an interconnect device(12, 20) having at least one conductive contact portion(12a,20a) to the first layer of said wearable garment(2);

25 mounting a connector (20, 40)having at least one conductive contact portion(20a, 40a) to the second layer of said wearable garment(2);

dressing said person in said wearable garment(2); and,  
    enclosing two layers of said wearable garment(2) by  
engaging said connector(20, 40) to said interconnect device  
    (12) so that the respective conductive contact portions (12a,  
5 20a, 40a) come in contact electrically.